

# OAPIA E-NEWSLETTER

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Office of Asian & Pacific  
Islander Affairs (OAPIA)

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D.C. residents of Asian and Pacific Islander descent discussed the future of the city at November's Citizen Summit III.

## Asians and Pacific Islanders Answered the Mayor's Call for Action

### *Hundreds of A/PI residents and workers participated in Citizen Summit III*

On Saturday, November 15, 2003, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (A/PI) showed up in full force, accounting for 10 percent of the people that attended Mayor Williams' Citizen Summit III. Over 2,800, residents participated in the day-long event. The summit's purpose was to engage people in the policy-making process of Mayor Williams and the District government. Participants of A/PI descent with limited English proficiency occupied 18 tables, where they received simultaneous interpretation in Asian languages. Fourteen tables were filled by Mandarin and Cantonese speakers, Vietnamese speakers utilized three tables, and Korean speakers occupied one table. According to Mayor Anthony Williams' Neighborhood Action initiative, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders comprise about three percent of the total residential population in the District of Columbia.

"People were open and appreciative of having the Mayor share his [citywide strategic planning process] with the community," said OAPIA director Greg Chen.

Julie Koo, OAPIA Community Outreach Coordinator, worked closely with the Multicultural Service Center, the Asian Service Center, Boat People S.O.S., and other community-based organizations (CBOs), to ensure that the District's API community would be able to participate in the summit. Bilingual Asian-language volunteers from throughout the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area served as trained facilitators and hosts, alongside District and CBO employees, to provide logistical support.

Prominent A/PI community members, including members of the Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Asian Liaison Unit and many ANC commissioners also attended the event. Among participants were a number of A/PI community leaders, including Ivy Chaine, May Chan, Tejpal Chawla, Sandy Dang, Reverend Sang Jin Choi, Ellen Yung Fatah, Judy Moy, Ruby Moy, Thanh Nguyen, Hien Vu, Duane Wang, Willie Wong, students from Jefferson Junior High School, and George Washington University students.

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## Community Partners Gather for Crime Victims Assistance Screening

OAPIA, in conjunction with Chinatown Service Center, hosted the premiere of the Crime Victims Assistance Partnership (CVAP) video in a brand new conference facility at One Judiciary Square. In the evening hours of Thursday, November 20, 2003, numerous people from government agencies such as the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Executive Office of the Mayor; and from several community-based organizations (CBOs) watched a multilingual video that informs people about the District of Columbia's Crime Victim Compensation Program. The video also tells viewers about the legal system from the perspective of a crime victim. The video will be produced and distributed in Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean languages to D.C.'s Asian and Pacific Islander community.

CVAP is a collective of several agencies that serve the Asian and Pacific Islander community in the District. CVAP partners include the Chinatown Service Center (the main recipient of a grant from the Justice Grants Administration), the Mayor's Office of Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, the Asian Liaison Unit of the Metropolitan Police Department, the Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center, Asian and Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project, Boat People S.O.S., Korean American Coalition, and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

To learn more about CVAP, please contact the Chinatown Service Center, (202) 898-0061.

## Photographs from the Crime Victims Assistance Video Screening



Director Sonny Izon spoke at the screening of the CVAP video that he worked on for months.



Francey Youngberg introduced the film (above).

**“Together, we  
are strong.”**

*- Crime Victims Assistance  
Partnership Video*

**The CAPER report** is being made available for a 15-day public comment period (**Nov. 28 to Dec. 15**). The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) provides information on Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)'s review and evaluation of its performance in achieving the objectives stated in its annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2003 (October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003).

DHCD Programs include: Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships, Emergency Shelter Grant, and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS.

The CAPER report will be available for review at the DHCD (8<sup>th</sup> floor), all public library branches, all Advisory Neighborhood Commission offices, and at the following community based organizations:

**Housing Counseling Services, Inc.**, 2430 Ontario Road, NW, (202) 667-7006, **Marshall Heights Community Dev. Corp.**, 3939 Benning Road, NE, (202) 396-1200, **Latino Economic Development Corporation**, 2316 - 18th Street, NW, (202) 588-5102, **Central American Resources Center**, 1459 Columbia Road, N.W., (202) 328-9799, **University Legal Services**, 300 I Street, NE, (202) 547-4747, **University Legal Services**, 3220 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Suite 4, (202) 645-7175, **Lydia's House**, 4101 Martin Luther King Jr., Avenue, SW, (202) 563-7629 ext. 202

Written comments may be submitted to: Mr. Stanley Jackson, Director, Department of Housing and Community Development, 801 North Capitol Street, N.E., Washington, D.C., 20002 (fax: 202-442-8391). All comments must be received by **December 15, 2003**.

## Photographs from the Citizen Summit III



With the aid of simultaneous interpretation, Korean American attendees participated in the Summit.





D.C. residents of Vietnamese (left; below) and Chinese (above) descent were engaged at the bilingual tables.



Elderly residents of primarily Chinese descent were active participants (above; below left and below right).







The District's youth, no doubt amongst them current and future A/PI leaders, discussed policy options and the city's strategic plans (above; below left).



**OAPIA heartily thanks members of the Asian and Pacific Islander community for attending the Citizen Summit III, and helping make it a great success!**

**10% of the  
Citizen Summit  
participants were  
of Asian and  
Pacific Islander  
descent.**

